

IC 20-20-23

Chapter 23. Projects for Innovative Education

IC 20-20-23-1

"Project"

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "project" means an innovative education project as described in this chapter.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.

IC 20-20-23-2

Fund; establishment; investments

Sec. 2. (a) The innovative education projects fund is established for funding special experimental demonstration projects that involve the innovative use of teachers, methods, systems, materials, or programs for preschool, elementary school, or secondary school students that may have a special value in promoting effective educational programs in Indiana. The state board shall administer the fund.

(b) The fund may be used only for projects created under this chapter.

(c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

(e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.

IC 20-20-23-3

Rules; distribution of money for project proposals

Sec. 3. (a) The state board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to:

- (1) establish project guidelines and criteria in addition to those specified in this chapter;
- (2) establish application deadlines;
- (3) evaluate projects;
- (4) provide for the dissemination of project plans to all interested school corporations in the state; and
- (5) otherwise carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(b) The state board may select and distribute money to school corporations submitting project proposals that best carry out the purposes of this chapter.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.

IC 20-20-23-4

Project funding; requisites

Sec. 4. For a project to receive funding under this chapter it must do the following:

- (1) Provide for curricular and instructional strategy and use of

materials responsive to individual educational needs and learning styles.

(2) Provide for the development of basic and applied learning skills; multicultural education; physical, emotional, and mental health education; consumer economics; career education; or skills in the arts, humanities, and physical, natural, and social sciences.

(3) Use community resources or communications media.

(4) Provide staff development.

(5) Provide for ongoing and annual evaluation of goals and objectives.

(6) Provide for parental involvement.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.

IC 20-20-23-5

Project components

Sec. 5. Projects under this chapter may include provisions for the following:

(1) A principal-teacher or career teacher component as described in section 7 of this chapter.

(2) A counselor-teacher component as described in section 8 of this chapter.

(3) Cooperative efforts with community agencies.

(4) Advanced or accelerated programs for students with special abilities.

(5) Use of volunteers.

(6) Flexible student attendance schedules.

(7) Early childhood and family education.

(8) Application of research findings.

(9) Use of paraprofessionals.

(10) Alternative criteria for high school graduation.

(11) Variable age and class size groupings.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.

IC 20-20-23-6

Child's participation; parental consent

Sec. 6. Consent from a student's parent must be obtained before the student's involvement in a project.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.

IC 20-20-23-7

Principal-teachers; career teachers; qualifications; hiring procedures; duties

Sec. 7. (a) A project may include a principal-teacher or career teacher component. The principal-teacher or career teacher may not be the exclusive teacher for students assigned to the principal-teacher or career teacher but shall serve the function of developing and implementing a student's overall learning program. The principal-teacher or career teacher may be responsible for regular classroom assignments as well as learning programs for other

students assigned to the principal-teacher or career teacher.

(b) A principal-teacher must be a principal and a career teacher must be a teacher licensed under IC 20-28-5.

(c) The governing body of the school corporation shall establish procedures for hiring individuals for the positions of principal-teacher and career teacher. The governing body has sole authority to hire these individuals. An individual is not entitled to employment in the position based on seniority or order of employment in the school corporation. The principal-teacher and career teacher shall be employed on a twelve (12) month basis with vacation time negotiated individually with the governing body.

(d) The principal-teacher or career teacher is responsible for the following:

(1) The overall education and learning plan of students assigned to the principal-teacher or career teacher. The principal-teacher or career teacher shall design a plan with the student, parents, and other faculty to maximize the learning potential and maturation level of each student.

(2) Measuring the proficiency of the students assigned to the principal-teacher or career teacher and assisting other staff in identifying student needs and making appropriate educational and subject groupings.

(3) If part of the project's plan, taking responsibility for the parent and early childhood education of students assigned to the principal-teacher or career teacher.

(4) Designing and being responsible for program components that meet special learning needs of high potential and talented students.

(5) Coordinating the ongoing, year-to-year learning program for students assigned to the principal-teacher or career teacher.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.

IC 20-20-23-8

Counselor-teachers; qualifications; hiring procedures; duties

Sec. 8. (a) A project may include a counselor-teacher component. The counselor-teacher may not be the exclusive teacher of the students assigned to the counselor-teacher.

(b) A counselor-teacher must be a licensed counselor under IC 20-28-5.

(c) The governing body of the school corporation shall establish procedures for hiring counselors for the position of counselor-teacher. The governing body has sole authority to hire the counselors. An individual is not entitled to employment in the position based on seniority or order of employment in the school corporation.

(d) The counselor-teacher shall provide guidance and counseling services to students assigned to the counselor-teacher. This includes working with individual students, groups of students, and families.

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.4.